

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KINSHA 00007 020737Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 020701Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5866

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

S E C R E T KINSHASA 0007

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, ASEC

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON POSSIBLE PRP KIDNAPPING PLANS.

REF: (A) KINSHASA 10846; (B)10853

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO FURTHER INFORMATION RE POSSIBLE PRP PLANS TO KIDNAP US CONSULS IN BUKAVU AND/OR LUBUMBASHI. NEVERTHELESS, CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN OUR CONSULS AND LOCAL ZAIRIAN SECURITY CONTINUES. EMBASSY ALSO CONTINUES LIAISON THIS MATTER WITH CND IN KINSHASA.

2. CONSUL MARKS VISITED KINSHASA DEC. 30 AND REPORTED THAT ALL IS CALM IN LUBUMBASHI. HE HAS HAD EXCELLENT COOPERATION FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, WHO HAD LAID ON GUARDS IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. VICE CONSUL JOHNSON ALSO VISITED KINSHASA WEEK OF DEC. 29 AND REPORTED THAT BUKAVU COMMISSIONER HAS ALSO LAID ON GUARDS.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MILITARY AND OTHER ACTIVITY IN PRP AREAS SOUTH OF BUKAVU. IT APPEARS THAT A PRP LEADER WAS KILLED IN SKIRMISHES WITH ZAIRIAN TROOPS AND THAT A NUMBER OF PRP REBELS ARE TURNING THEMSELVES IN TO GOZ. WHILE

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 00007 020737Z

THESE MAY BE GOOD SIGNS, THEY COULD ALSO MEAN THAT

PRP LEADERSHIP WILL BE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO RECOUP THEIR
LOSSES -- OR AT LEAST GET BACK ON THE FRONT PAGES. IT
BEHOOVES US IN THESE CIRCUSTANCES TO REMAIN ALERT.
CUTLER

SECRET

NNN

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